

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

In the Matter of)

Implementation of Section 309(j) of the)
Communications Act -- Competitive Bidding)
_____)

PP Docket 93-253

RECEIVED
APR 13 1995
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

WOMEN OF WIRELESSSM
COMMENTS IN SUPPORT OF
TEC'S EMERGENCY PETITION FOR A WAIVER

Women of WirelessSM ("WOWSM") hereby submits its comments in support of the Emergency Petition for Waiver filed by Telephone Electronics Corporation ("TEC"). TEC has requested a limited waiver of the Commission's revenue cap to permit TEC to participate in the entrepreneurs' block broadband PCS auctions as a small business. TEC's waiver is limited to eight basic trading areas ("BTAs") and to the unique circumstances faced by TEC as a rural telephone holding company. WOWSM believes that good cause exists for grant of the limited waiver requested by TEC. If the waiver is granted, TEC represents that it will dismiss its pending legal challenge to the Commission's competitive bidding rules that have resulted in an indefinite stay of the C block auctions. Grant of the limited waiver requested by TEC will permit the C block auctions to proceed without unraveling the sound fabric of the entrepreneurs' block.

Should the Commission deny the waiver or delay the commencement of the C block auctions beyond June, 1995, WOWSM requests that the Commission stay the issuance of the

No. of Copies rec'd. 0+9
List A B C D E

A and B block PCS licenses until the C block auctions are completed and the winners are declared. Award of the A and B block licenses while the C block auction remain in doubt will effectively eliminate the prospect of PCS competition from the C block licensees. The C block licensees, that have limited revenues and assets by definition, will be unable to compete against the telecommunications giants that have secured the A and B block licenses if these licensees also have a one year headstart.


PCS represents the first significant opportunity for women-owned businesses to enter the ownership ranks of the communications industry. Through a deliberate and considered proceeding, the Commission has adopted rules that properly address the barriers women face in raising the capital necessary to participate in the PCS auctions and that address the historic under-representation of women in the communications industry. These factors also were recognized by Congress in enacting the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993.

TEC's waiver request is narrowly tailored so that its grant will not undermine the important goal of the entrepreneurs' block auctions -- the wide dissemination of licenses. WOWSM supports grant of the limited waiver to TEC for five reasons. First, the waiver is limited in geographic scope to only eight of the over 900 broadband PCS licenses to be auctioned in the C and F blocks. Second, TEC only seeks a waiver to exclude the aggregation of revenues from its unregulated long distance resale operations. When these revenues are excluded, TEC's rural telephone companies in the aggregate meet the Commission's definition of a small business eligible to bid in the entrepreneurs' blocks. Third, on a consolidated basis, TEC's rural telephone companies qualify as a rural telephone company and as small telephone companies. Fourth, the limited nature of TEC's request

will prevent it from dominating the entrepreneurs' block auctions to the exclusion of women-owned businesses. Finally, as recognized by TEC in its Petition, time is of the essence for the C block auction. Grant of the limited waiver will permit the Commission to proceed with the C block auction and remove the regulatory uncertainty that has hampered investment in women-owned businesses preparing to bid for PCS licenses in the entrepreneurs' block.

WHEREFORE, WOWSM supports the grant of a limited waiver to TEC and the immediate scheduling of the C block auction. Should the C block auction be delayed beyond June, 1995, WOWSM requests a stay of the grant of the A and B block licenses until the C block auction is completed.

Respectfully submitted,
WOMEN OF WIRELESSSM

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Elise Wright", is written over a horizontal line.

Elise Wright
Designated Representative
P.O. Box 227
Dunn Loring, VA 22027-0227

April 3, 1995

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

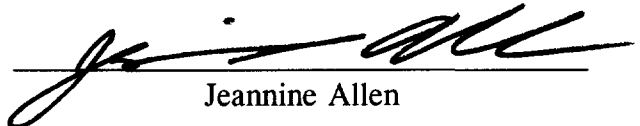
I, Jeannine Allen, hereby certify that this 3rd day of April, 1995 an original and nine copies of the foregoing Women of WirelessSM Comments in Support of TEC's Emergency Petition for Waiver were filed with Mr. William Caton, Acting Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, and that copies were served by hand on:

James U. Troup
Roger P. Furey
Arter & Hadden
1801 K Street, N.W., Suite 400K
Washington, D.C. 20006

Anthony Williams
Catherine J.K. Sandoval
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Communications Business Opportunities
STP 0400
2033 M Street, N.W., Room 250
Washington, D.C. 20554

International Transcription Service
2100 M Street, N.W., Suite 140
Washington, D.C. 20037

Federal Communications Commission
Commercial Wireless Division
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
STP 1700 A1
2025 M Street, N.W., Room 5202
Washington, D.C. 20554


Jeannine Allen